

HONOLULU'S OLD CURIOSITY SHOP

Odds and Ends Which Recall the
Early Romances of the
Island.

It is a great pity that the Honolulu Scrap Iron Company was not in existence when Robert Louis Stevenson lived in town. If it had been and he had happened down that way, some wonderful tales of the romance of days gone by would have been born in that scrap-littered yard. Lying in heaps of all sizes and seemingly in hopeless confusion, are odds and ends with interesting histories attached to them. Here is a pulley from a little schooner that plied these waters in the good old days, when blackbirding was rife. Over there in the corner lies a coolie house still. It is black with age and romance. Picture it in full working order. The fire is gleaming underneath it. Over-

head the moon sails through the fleecy clouds and the warm breeze rustles through the trees. Round the pot, with its simmering contents, are grouped a crowd of dusky figures, talking in their guttural language. The pot boils up, the spirit is made and the drinking commenced. Friends are called round, and the liquid is handed round by dark-skinned girls, whose teeth flash white in the moonlight. At first all is quiet; then, as the spirit begins to work, tongues are loosened as the hot-air men get in some of their fine work.

The moon has nearly passed over the rim of the distant mountain. The talking suddenly ceases. Two men glare at each other. There is a back answer, and in another moment knives are out and the two figures are circling round each other in the ring that has quickly been made for them. At the side a girl sits motionless, except for the straining rise and fall of her bosom. Suddenly a knife gleams for a moment in the last flickers of the moonlight and disappears into one of the bodies. The moon has sunk out of sight, the crowd has melted away, and only the girl and the thing are left with the dying fire and the simmering pot.

Honolulu's First Safe.

In C. H. Brown's office stands an unpretentious looking safe. It has a coat of aluminum paint over it, and nothing more to distinguish it from any other old safe, until Mr. Brown starts in to tell you about it.

"That safe, sir," he will tell you, "was the first safe ever used in a bank in Honolulu. It was put in when Bishop's bank was first opened. The banking premises were then in the old Grinnell building."

As an additional remark he also said that if The Advertiser man had all the money that had been in that safe, why then he would be able to ride when he pleased.

The lock is of the combination type, at nothing like those in use at the

present time. The key is for all the world like a small piece of brass comb. This is slid into part of the front door, a handle turned round, and everything disappears from sight. Round and round the handle goes, until it arrives back at the original position, when the piece of brass comb is forcibly ejected. The same occurs when unlocking the safe.

It is easy to picture some of the scenes through which the old safe has passed. In those old days, when the whalers used to visit the Island and blackbirding was rife, things used to move some. Let into the wall of the room where Bishop used to have his desk, it must have heard some wild tales. In would come an old whaling captain, tough as they make them, drop into the chair, with a big black cigar in the corner of his mouth, and describe what he had been doing since his last visit.

There are iron shelves in that old safe which have held piles and piles of the old-fashioned fifty-dollar slugs used as currency by the whalers. What schemes have been thought out and what documents been signed up within sight of the old safe and afterwards placed in its keeping. There it stands now, a solid ton weight, just as good as the day it was sent out of the manufactory, and there it will stand until finally it reaches the end of its usefulness and is sent back to the smelting works.

Ancient Mill Machinery.

Scattered round the yard are also sets of old sugar mill machinery. Lying there with the rust accumulating on them the casual observer takes no notice of them. Away back in the files of The Advertiser, however, are the accounts of their arrivals in the island, at the time when they were bright and shining and the sugar industry had not reached the stage of perfection to which it has now attained.

Several odd-looking bits of iron arrested The Advertiser man's attention. They were lying there ready for transportation to the furnaces. Not so long ago they formed the plates, or races, along which the mortars used to glide in Battery Harlow, Diamond Head. They were not a success, however, as being cast they would not stand the strain of the discharge and cracked up. They have now been replaced by new races of steel and the old ones put on the scrap heap. Very different are they now from the wonderful things they appeared to be when they first came to the island.

Mr. Brown's latest acquisition is two of the residences on the island where the old lighthouse used to stand. Although the houses themselves never played any real part in the history of the port the light did. It was here that "Lighthouse Charley" used to reside in the little building on stilts and watch the light that guided vessels, now lying at the bottom of the sea, to a safe anchorage. Mention of Charley calls to mind the story that is told about him. His family was large, numbering in all thirteen, and it used to be the wonder of everyone how they all managed to exist in the small building.

"How do you get on with all those children, Charley?" he was asked on one occasion.

"Why, all right," he exclaimed. "I have no trouble at all. Only one of them has been drowned so far."

The old light has served its time and

We Are Showing Gems in Oriental Art

Most of the selection appeals to persons who have visited Japan (and to those who have not) and carried away memories of Hakone, and those who have followed the trail from historic Kamakura, where reigns Diabutsu to Majestic Fujiyama.

BEAUTIFUL HAND-PAINTED SILKS, BRASS DUPLICATES OF FAMOUS ART WORK, SILK KIMONOS AND MANDARIN COATS, PARASOLS, CHRISTMAS TOYS, EMBROIDERED SHIRTWAIST PATTERNS, COPPER IDOLS AND IDOLS CARVED FROM OLD IVORY, LANTERNS, SCREENS, CROCKERY IN SETS AND SINGLE PIECES, ANCIENT JAPANESE SWORDS, BRONZE VASES, ETC.

SAYEGUSA

Nuuanu Above Hotel

TOM SHARP, The Painter
Elite Building
Phone 1697

Sharp Signs

Signs of all kinds.
Scenic Work, Decorating,
Graining, Paper Hanging, Etc.

Still here and doing the best Framing in the city

Pacific Picture Framing Co., Nuuanu, below Hotel.

Like everything else of that period has been supplanted by fresh innovations.

The whole yard is full of odds and ends about which a book could be written. It is a veritable museum and yet all the things are not for the scrap heap. Engines and plants of all description are to be found there, just as good as the day they were installed, but it is the romantic element which appeals to visitors the most.

SOMETHING FOR BOYS.

One of the windows in the Ehlers store was filled on Saturday with a collection of articles that stirred the heart of every small boy who saw the display. There was the tepee and the near-buckskin suit of the style worn in the days of Leatherstocking when Cooper drew upon his imagination for Indians who were supposed to be good while yet alive. The western ideal of the average boy of today is painted with the brush of a Remington and he forgets that the frontier has disappeared and the bad Indian was long ago driven out of the West into the storybooks. But the suits are tempting and with most boys fill a long felt want.

SHOES OF QUALITY

Laird Schober Company, manufacturers of fine shoes, have filled our order for pumps made of.....

SATIN DE LAINE

They are exquisitely beautiful. Rich in appearance beyond the ideas of the most exacting person. Heels are covered with the same material as the upper part of the shoe.

BLACK SATIN SLIPPERS

Wonderful creations for evening wear. Louis XV. heels. A cluster of rhinestones on the shoe upper adds a touch of elegance that is unusual.

NEITHER STYLE HIGH-PRICED.

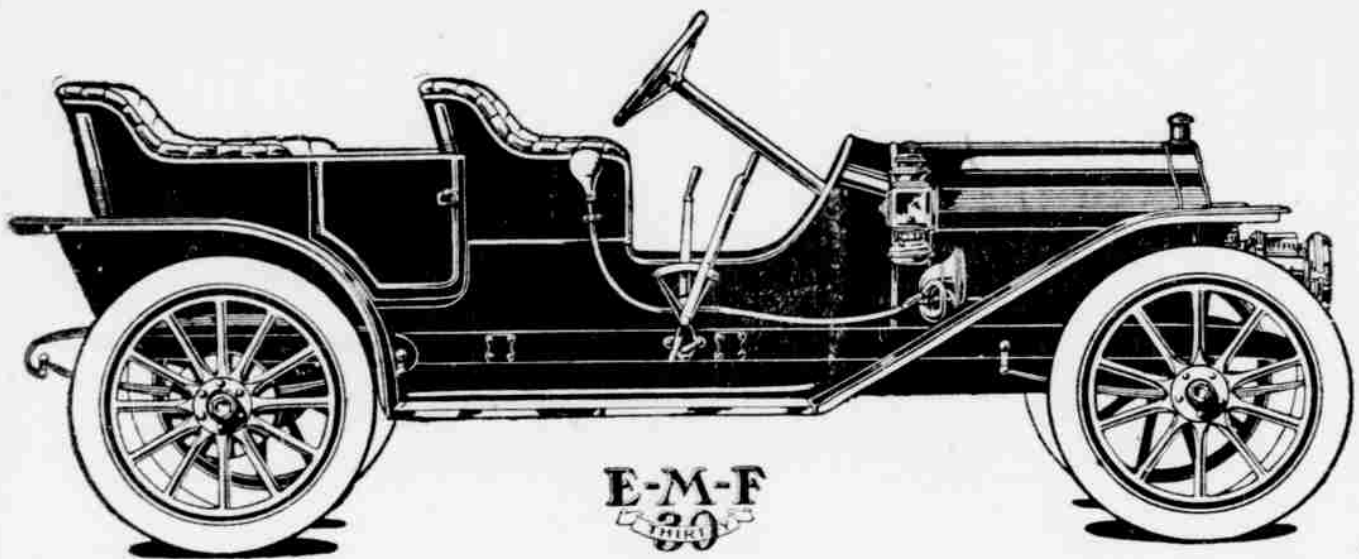
Attention is called to a line of white canvas pumps for wear with shirtwaist dress and afternoon.

McInerny's Shoe Store

Fort Street above King

E. M. F. and FLANDERS

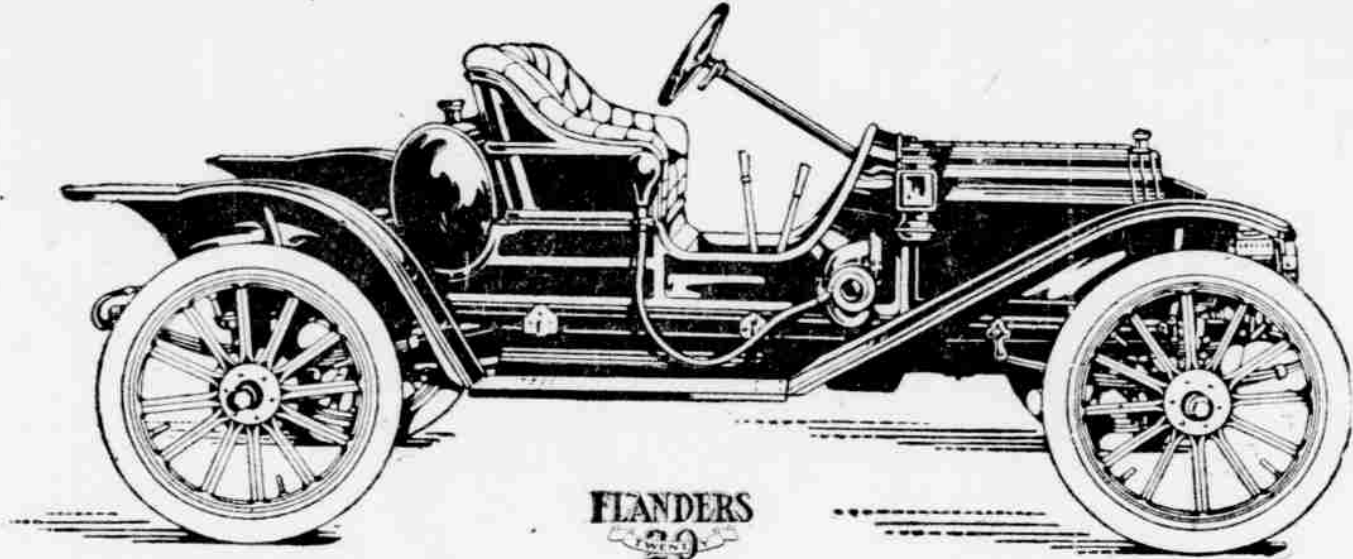
The Two Greatest Cars on Earth for the Money



E-M-F

1911 Model E. M. F. Studebaker, 30 h. p. Touring Car, Baby Tonneau or Roadster. Equipment includes: Magneto, Headlights and generator, sidelights, Taillights, wheeljack, tools and horn.

Price, \$1000 F. O. B. Detroit



FLANDERS

The 1911 Flanders Studebaker "Twenty" 4 cylinders, 20 h. p., 100 in. wheel base, 32 in. wheels, seats 2 or 4, rear seat removable, magneto, oil and gas lamps, generator, tube horn, tools and jack.

Price, \$700 F. O. B. Factory

The E. M. F. and Flanders are guaranteed absolutely for one year. Replacement of any broken part made here—not necessary to send back to factory.

The Greatest Automobile Values the World Has Ever Seen. Demonstrations at

Schuman Carriage Company, Ltd.

Merchant Street, Honolulu.